Application Serial No.: 10/730,440
Filed: 12/8/2003

- - Proposed Claim Language for Claim 1

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A damping~~ An apparatus operable to provide damping between a sprung mass and an unsprung mass, comprising:

a linear to rotary conversion mechanism comprising a translatable member, having a first attachment point, and, ~~that is~~ adapted for generally linear translation in a forward and a reverse direction and a rotatable member comprising a rotatable shaft that is rotatably coupled to the translatable member; wherein translation of the translatable member in one of the forward or the reverse directions produces a forward or a reverse rotation of the rotatable member and shaft, respectively; and

a damping mechanism comprising a second attachment point, a hub that is fixed to the shaft, a means for generating a single electromagnetic field in response to an applied electrical signal that may be continuously varied in response to an input signal that is representative of a desired damping force and a fluid having a viscosity that may be continuously varied by application of the electromagnetic field that is in touching contact with the hub, wherein application of the variable electromagnetic field to the fluid produces changes in the viscosity of the fluid that in turn provides variable resistance to rotation of the hub and translation of the translatable member.

Underlined: Previous Amendment
~~Highlighted Portion~~ Proposed Amendment